

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Original)An electronic method of obtaining a service alert pertaining to exercise equipment, the method comprising;
 - (a) using a control server at a fitness facility to gather service information from at least one fitness equipment unit via a wireless connection;
 - (b) determining whether the service information gathered in step (a) is significant; and

(c) automatically sending a service alert message to at least one predefined recipient regarding service information that is significant.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein sending a service alert is accomplished only when requested by at least one recipient.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein using the control server to gather service information includes storing the service information in a database associated with the control server.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the service information is considered significant if the fitness equipment unit requires servicing

21. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the service information is sent by the control server.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the control server gathers real time service information; the method further comprising using an accumulated data storage unit to store history service information; the history service information being formed by the periodic collection of the real time service information.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein determining whether the real time service information is significant includes obtaining and evaluating the history service information.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein sending a service alert message includes sending from the control server the real time service information and sending from the accumulated storage unit the history service information.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein sending a service alert message includes sending from the control server both the real time service information and the history service information.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 22, wherein sending a service alert message includes sending from the accumulated data storage unit both the real time service information and the history service information.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 16, wherein the control server gathers real time service information; the method further comprising using an accumulated data storage unit to store history service information; wherein sending a service alert message includes sending both real time service information and history service information.

28. (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein the history service information is formed from the periodic collection of real time service information via a wireless connection.

29. (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein both the real time service information and the history service information are sent by the control server.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 27, wherein both the real time service information and the history service information are sent by the accumulated data storage unit.

31. (Original) A method of obtaining service information from fitness equipment units, the method comprising;

(a) requesting service information on the fitness equipment units from an accumulated data storage unit having a permanent database; the request including instructions defining what types of service information are to be obtained; the database having been formed from an accumulation of service information from a plurality of temporary databases; and

(b) receiving a service report from the accumulated data storage unit according to the instructions; wherein the service report includes a plethora of information.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein the service information from the accumulated data storage unit includes both current service information and history service information.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein the service information from the accumulated data storage unit includes history service information; the method further comprising requesting current service information from a plurality of temporary databases.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 33, wherein requesting service information is accomplished via wireless protocol.

35. (Original) A method of obtaining service information, the method comprising requesting service information from a control server having a temporary database; the request including instructions defining what types of service information are to be obtained; and receiving a service report from the control server according to the instructions.

36. (Original) The method according to claim 35, wherein the service information is real time service information.

37. (Canceled)

38. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the fitness facility is one of a plurality of fitness facilities of an association and wherein the at least one predefined recipient is a main office of the association.

39. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one predefined recipient is a manufacturer of the at least one fitness equipment.

40. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one predefined recipient is a service/maintenance provider remote from the fitness facility.

41. (New) The method of claim 16 further comprising:

sending service information from the control server at the fitness facility to an accumulated data storage unit; and

sending service information from a second control server at a second fitness facility remote from the first fitness facility to the accumulated data storage unit.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the service information sent from the second control server at the second fitness facility is real-time data and is continuously sent.

43. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one predefined recipient comprises a repair facility and wherein the service alert message includes a request for a replacement part for the at least one exercise equipment.

44. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the service report includes service information on a plurality of fitness equipment units.

45. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein the plurality of fitness equipment units are located at a plurality of distinct fitness facilities.

46. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the service report includes information concerning usage of at least one fitness equipment unit during hours of a day, identifying peak hours of usage.

47. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the service report includes information concerning usage of a plurality of fitness equipment units.

48. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the plurality of fitness equipment units are at different fitness facilities.

49. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the service report includes service information on a plurality of fitness equipment units.

50. (New) The method of claim 47, wherein the plurality of fitness equipment units are located at a plurality of distinct fitness facilities.

51. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the service report includes information concerning usage of fitness equipment units during hours of a day, identifying peak hours of usage.